

6. (New) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the method further comprising the step of detecting the error in the packet exceeding a predetermined size.

REMARKS

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 USC §102 as being anticipated by AAPA. Claims 2-4 stand rejected under 35 USC §103 as being obvious over AAPA in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,493,562, issued to Lo (hereinafter "Lo"). Based on the following, these rejections are respectfully traversed.

In response to the above rejection, it is respectfully submitted that the claims recite features neither taught nor suggested by AAPA alone or in combination with Lo. In particular, such features include "...detecting for an error while transmitting the packet, upon detection of the error in the packet, stopping the transmission of the received packet to the switch and the storage of the incoming packet, and transmitting a signal indicating an occurrence of the error and a signal indicating an end of the received packet to the switch, as recited in Claim 1. Further, a similar feature is also recited in Claim 2.

The present invention discloses that the error detection is performed simultaneously as the packet is transmitted to a switch, as recited in the amended claim 1. In addition, the present invention discloses that, if an error occurs in a packet larger than 64 bytes, the packet is not transmitted and the received packet is not stored, thereby saving overhead associated with the unnecessary error packets in the prior art. In this regard, claim 1 has been amended as a method for processing a packet exceeding a predetermined size.

In contrast, the AAPA only teaches that the packet is discarded when an error occurs in

a packet less than 64 bytes, and that the entire packet is transmitted along with an error signal if an error occurs in a packet exceeding 64 bytes. (page 2, lines 15-19). Further, the AAPA fails to show or teach that the step of detecting for an error while transmitting the packet, as recited in the amended claim 1.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the presently recited “...**detecting for an error while transmitting the packet**, upon detection of the error in the packet, stopping the transmission of the received packet to the switch and the storage of the incoming packet, and transmitting a signal indicating an occurrence of the error and a signal indicating an end of the received packet to the switch,” is not anticipated by AAPA.

Claim 2 contains a similar feature as in Claim 1, thus urged patentable for the same reasons.

In view of the above-described distinctions, it is respectfully submitted that the invention of Claims 1-4 are not anticipated nor made obvious by AAPA alone or in combination with Lo. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this ground of rejection are respectfully requested.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from the independent claim discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

If any issues remain which may best be resolved through a telephone communication, the Examiner is requested to kindly telephone the undersigned telephone number listed below. If there are any fees due and owing, please charge Deposit Account No. 502-470.

Respectfully submitted,

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switch; ~~and the storage of the incoming packet.~~

transmitting a signal indicating an occurrence of the error and a signal indicating an end of the received packet to the switch.

2. (Twice Amended) A method for processing a packet exceeding a predetermined size received from a physical layer by a MAC layer of an Ethernet, wherein the received packet is stored in a memory for an eventual transmission to a switch, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a packet from the physical layer, ~~and~~ storing the received packet in the memory, and transmitting the received packet to the switch;

detecting for error while receiving the packet;

upon detection of the error, stopping the storage of the received packet in the memory and the transmission of the received packet to the switch; and,

transmitting a ~~first~~ signal indicating an occurrence of the error and a ~~second~~ signal indicating an end of the received packet to the switch.

5. (New) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the method further comprising the step of detecting the error in the packet exceeding a predetermined size.

6. (New) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the method further comprising the step of detecting the error in the packet exceeding a predetermined size.